

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

Applicants: Tuan Bui, et al.
Appl. No.: 10/059,929
Conf. No.: 8386
Filed: January 29, 2002
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPERATING MEDICAL DEVICES
Art Unit: 3626
Examiner: Dilek B. Cobanoglu
Docket No.: EIS-5807 (112713-1098)

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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APPEAL BRIEF

Sir:

Appellants submit this Appeal Brief in support of the Notice of Appeal filed on January 5, 2009 and in furtherance of the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review dated February 3, 2009. This Appeal is taken from the Final Rejection in the Office Action dated August 5, 2008. This Appeal Brief is timely filed.

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I. REAL PARTIES IN INTEREST

The real party in interest for the above-identified patent application on Appeal is Baxter International, Inc., by virtue of an Assignment recorded on June 14, 2002 at reel 012989, frame 0868 in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellant's legal representative and the Assignee of the above-identified patent application do not know of any prior or pending appeals, interferences or judicial proceedings which may be related to, directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision with respect to the above-identified Appeal.

III. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 191 are pending in the above-identified application and stand rejected. Therefore, Claims 1 to 191 are being appealed in this Brief. A copy of the appealed claims is included in the Claims Appendix.

IV. STATUS OF THE AMENDMENTS

No amendment was filed in response to the final rejection. Therefore, no unentered amendments are pending in this case.

V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Tables of the claimed subject matter is herein presented, with reference to the specification as filed, for support of each of the independent claims. Any means plus function language is underlined in the tables below. For such claims, corresponding portions of the specification outlining the structures and acts relevant to such language are cited by page and line number.

Claim 1	Specification
1. A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
inputting into a first computer a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the	Page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 1; page 9, lines 9 to 12.

medical device;	
inputting into a second computer, from a first source, a second patient identifier;	Page 9, lines 13 to 19.
inputting into the second computer, from a second source, a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;	Page 9, lines 20 to 24.
determining if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier and sending the medication identifier to the first computer, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier; and	Page 9, line 25 to page 10, line 8.
determining if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier and sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier, where the operating parameter does not pass through the second computer.	Page 10, lines 9 to 27.

Claim 21	Specification
21. A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
a first computer, the first computer designed to accept a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;	Page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 1; page 9, lines 9 to 12.
a second computer, the second computer designed to accept a second patient identifier from a first source, the second computer designed to accept a medication identifier from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient	Page 9, lines 13 to 24.

identifier,	
where the second computer is designed to send the medication identifier to the first computer if the second patient identifier and the third patient identifier are equivalent;	Page 9, line 25 to page 10, line 8.
where the first computer is designed to send the operating parameter to the medical device if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier, where the operating parameter does not pass through the second computer.	Page 10, lines 9 to 27.

Claim 36	Specification
36. A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31; page 6, lines 10 to 15.
accepting a first input from a first computer, the first input including a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;	Page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 1; page 9, lines 9 to 12.
accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion coming from a first source, the first portion including a second patient identifier, the second portion coming from a second source, the second portion including a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;	Page 9, lines 13 to 24.
sending the medication identifier to the first computer, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier; and	Page 9, line 25 to page 10, line 8.
sending the operating parameter to the medical device, if the third patient identifier is	Page 10, lines 9 to 27.

equivalent to the first patient identifier, where the operating parameter does not pass through the second computer.	
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Claim 41	Specification
41. A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
<u>means for accepting a first input at a central location</u> , the first input including a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;	Page 4, lines 7 to 9; page 12, line 32 to page 13, line 5.
<u>means for accepting a second input at a remote location</u> , the second input including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion coming from a first source, the first portion including a second patient identifier, the second portion coming from a second source, the second portion including a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;	Page 4, lines 28 to 31; page 13, lines 6 to 13.
<u>means for sending the medication identifier to the central location</u> , if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier; and	Page 3, lines 20 to 22; page 13, lines 14 to 20.
<u>means for sending the operating parameter to the medical device</u> , if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier, where the operating parameter does not pass through a computer prior to being accepted by the medical device.	Page 5, lines 12 to 13; page 9, lines 2 to 8; page 10, lines 9 to 27.

Claim 45	Specification
45. A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of: accepting a first input at a first computer, the first input including a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;	Page 1, lines 29 to 31. Page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 1; page 9, lines 9 to 12.
accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input associated with information derived from a device attached to a patient, the second input including a second patient identifier;	Page 9, lines 13 to 19.
accepting a third input from the second computer, the third input associated with information affixed to a medication container, the third input including a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier; and	Page 9, lines 20 to 24.
sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device if the first, second, and third patient identifiers are equivalent, where the operating parameter is sent without passing through the second computer.	Page 9, line 25 to page 10, line 27.

Claim 62	Specification
62. A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for: accepting a first input at a first computer,	Page 1, lines 29 to 31; page 6, lines 10 to 15. Page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 1; page 9, lines 9 to 12.

the first input including a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;	
accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input associated with information derived from a device attached to a patient, the second input including a second patient identifier;	Page 9, lines 13 to 19.
accepting a third input from the second computer, the third input associated with a information affixed to a medication container, the third input including a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier; and	Page 9, lines 20 to 24.
sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device if the first, second, and third patient identifiers are equivalent, without passing through the second computer.	Page 9, line 25 to page 10, line 27.

Claim 67	Specification
67. A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
inputting, at a central location, a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device;	Page 10, line 32 to page 13, line 5.
inputting from a first source, at a remote location, a second patient identifier;	Page 10, lines 6 to 8.
inputting from a second source, at the remote location, a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;	Page 10, lines 10 to 12.

sending the medication identifier to the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier;	Page 13, lines 14 to 20.
finding a latest operating parameter at the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier; and	Page 13, line 21 to page 14, line 1.
sending a confirmation to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter; and	Page 14, lines 2 to 9.
sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter.	Page 14, lines 9 to 14.

Claim 87	Specification
87. A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
a first processor at a central location, the first processor designed to accept a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device; and	Page 10, line 32 to page 13, line 5.
a second processor at a remote location, the second processor designed to accept a second patient identifier from a first source;	Page 10, lines 6 to 8.
the second processor designed to accept a medication identifier from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier,	Page 10, lines 10 to 12.

where the second processor is designed to send the medication identifier to the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier,	Page 13, lines 14 to 20.
where the first processor is designed to find the latest operating parameter at the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier,	Page 13, line 21 to page 14, line 1.
where the first processor is designed to send a confirmation to the second processor, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter, and	Page 14, lines 2 to 9.
where the first processor is designed to send the latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter.	Page 14, lines 9 to 14.

Claim 95	Specification
95. A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31; page 6, lines 10 to 15.
accepting a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device from an input device at a central location;	Page 10, line 32 to page 13, line 5.
accepting a second patient identifier from a first source, the first source at a remote location;	Page 10, lines 6 to 8.
accepting a medication identifier from a second source, the second source at the remote location, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;	Page 10, lines 10 to 12.

sending the medication identifier to the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier;	Page 13, lines 14 to 20.
finding a latest operating parameter, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier;	Page 13, line 21 to page 14, line 1.
sending a confirmation to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter; and	Page 14, lines 2 to 9.
sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter.	Page 14, lines 9 to 14.

Claim 101	Specification
101. A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
storing medical treatment data in a memory associated with a fast processor, the medical treatment data including a first patient identification data, a first medication identification data, and a first plurality of medical device operating parameters, where the first plurality of medical device operating parameters is associated with the medical treatment data and the patient identification data;	Page 14, line 30 to page 15, line 5.
inputting second medication identification data into a second processor, where the second medication identification data is associated with medication to be administered to a patient, where the medical device is operably connected to the	Page 15, lines 11 to 13.

second processor;	
inputting second patient identification data into the second processor;	Page 15, lines 6 to 10.
sending the second medication identification data and the second patient identification data from the second processor to the first processor;	Page 15, lines 13 to 14.
finding a latest plurality of medical device operating parameters in the memory associated with the first processor; and	Page 15, lines 15 to 16.
sending the latest plurality of medical device operating parameters to the second processor if a comparison of the first and second patient identifiers satisfies a first predetermined condition, and if a comparison of the first and second medication identification data satisfies a second predetermined condition;	Page 15, line 17 to page 17, line 6.
sending a confirmation to the second processor if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters;	Page 15, line 17 to page 17, line 6.
sending the latest plurality of operating parameters to the medical device if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters.	Page 15, line 17 to page 16, line 6.

Claim 108	Specification
108. A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31; page 6, lines 10 to 15.

storing medical treatment data in a memory associated with a first processor, the medical treatment data including a first patient identification data, a first medication identification data, and a first plurality of medical device operating parameters, where the first plurality of medical device operating parameters is associated with the medical treatment data and the patient identification data;	Page 14, line 30 to page 15, line 5.
accepting a second medication identification data into a second processor, where the second medication identification data is associated with medication to be administered to a patient, where the medical device is operably connected to the second processor;	Page 15, lines 11 to 13.
accepting a second patient identification data into the second processor;	Page 15, lines 6 to 10.
sending the second medication identification data and the second patient identification data from the second processor to the first processor;	Page 15, lines 13 to 14.
finding a latest plurality of medical device operating parameters in the memory associated with the first processor;	Page 15, lines 15 to 16.
sending the latest plurality of medical device operating parameters to the second processor if a comparison of the first and second patient identifiers satisfies a first predetermined condition, and if a comparison of the first and second medication identification data satisfies a second predetermined condition;	Page 15, line 17 to page 17, line 6.
sending a confirmation to the second	Page 15, line 17 to page 16,

processor if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters; and	line 6.
sending the latest plurality of operating parameters to the medical device if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters.	Page 15, line 17 to page 17, line 6.

Claim 115	Specification
115. A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
inputting, at a central location, a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device;	Page 16, lines 24 to 30.
inputting a second patient identifier into a processor from a first source, the processor being at a remote location;	Page 16, line 31 to page 17, line 1.
inputting a medication identifier and a second operating parameter for the medical device into the processor, the medication identifier and a second operating parameter coming from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;	Page 16, lines 2 to 7.
sending the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the central location, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier;	Page 16, lines 8 to 17.
sending the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the processor, if the first and second operating	Page 16, lines 18 to 32.

parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.	
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Claim 133	Specification
133. A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
a computer at a central location, the computer designed to accept a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device;	Page 16, lines 24 to 30.
a processor at a remote location, the processor designed to accept a second patient identifier from a first source;	Page 16, line 31 to page 17, line 1.
the processor designed to accept a medication identifier and a second operating parameter for the medical device from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;	Page 16, lines 2 to 7.
where the processor sends the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the computer, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier, and	Page 16, lines 8 to 17.
where the computer sends the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the processor, if the first and second operating parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.	Page 16, lines 18 to 32.

Claim 141	Specification
141. A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31; page 6, lines 10 to 15.
accepting, at a central location, a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device;	Page 16, lines 24 to 30.
accepting a second patient identifier into a processor from a first source at a remote location;	Page 16, line 31 to page 17, line 1.
accepting a medication identifier and a second operating parameter for the medical device at the remote location, the medication identifier and a second operating parameter coming from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;	Page 16, lines 2 to 7.
sending the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the central location, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier;	Page 16, lines 8 to 17.
sending the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the processor, if the first and second operating parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.	Page 16, lines 18 to 32.

Claim 146	Specification
146. A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
reading a first patient identifier at a remote	Page 18, line 17 to 19.

location, the first patient identifier being attached to a patient's body;	
reading a medication identifier at the remote location, the medication identifier including a second patient identifier and a first medical device identifier;	Page 18, lines 20 to 24.
reading a second medical device identifier at the remote location, the second medical device identifier being affixed to the medical device; and	Page 18, lines 25 to 27.
receiving an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location, if the first patient identifier is equivalent to the second patient identifier, and if the medical device identifier and the second medical device identifier are equivalent.	Page 18, line 28 to page 19, line 6.

Claim 155	Specification
155. A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
a digital assistant designed to read a first patient identifier, the first patient identifier being attached to a patient's body,	Page 18, lines 17 to 19.
the digital assistant being designed to read a medication identifier at the remote location, the medication identifier including a second patient identifier and a first medical device identifier,	Page 18, lines 20 to 24.
the digital assistant designed to read a second medical device identifier at the remote location, the second medical device identifier being affixed to the medical device, and	Page 18, lines 25 to 27.
the digital assistant designed to trigger the	Page 18, line 28 to page 19,

transmission of an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location to a medical device, if the first patient identifier is equivalent to the second patient identifier, and if the medical device identifier and the second medical device identifier are equivalent.	line 6.
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Claim 160	Specification
160. A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31; page 6, lines 10 to 15.
reading a first patient identifier at a remote location, the first patient identifier being attached to a patient's body;	Page 18, lines 17 to 19.
reading a medication identifier at the remote location, the medication identifier including a second patient identifier and a first medical device identifier;	Page 18, lines 20 to 24.
reading a second medical device identifier at the remote location, the second medical device identifier being affixed to the medical device; and	Page 18, lines 25 to 27.
trigger the transmission of an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location to a medical device, if the first patient identifier is equivalent to the second patient identifier, and if the medical device identifier and the second medical device identifier are equivalent.	Page 18, line 28 to page 19, line 6.

Claim 165	Specification
165. A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
storing a first operating parameter at a central location, the first operating parameter associated with a first patient identifier;	Page 19, lines 24 to 27.
accepting a second operating parameter into a medical device, the medical device being at a remote location;	Page 19, lines 28 to 30.
accepting the first patient identifier into the medical device;	Page 19, lines 30 to 35.
sending the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location; and	Page 20, lines 1 to 2.
sending an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter.	Page 20, lines 2 to 8.

Claim 175	Specification
175. A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31.
a computer at a central location, the computer designed to store a first operating parameter, the first operating parameter associated with a first patient identifier;	Page 19, lines 24 to 27.
a medical device having a processor and an input device, the input device designed to read a second operating parameter from a medication label, the input device designed to read the first patient identifier from a wristband using the input	Page 19, lines 28 to 35.

device, the medical device at a remote location, the processor designed to send the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location,	Page 20, lines 1 to 2.
where the computer is designed to send an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter.	Page 20, lines 2 to 8.

Claim 182	Specification
182. A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:	Page 1, lines 29 to 31; page 6, lines 10 to 15.
storing a first operating parameter at a central location, the first operating parameter associated with a first patient identifier;	Page 19, lines 24 to 27.
accepting a second operating parameter into a medical device, the medical device at a remote location;	Page 19, lines 28 to 30.
accepting the rust patient identifier into the medical device;	Page 19, lines 30 to 35.
sending the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location;	Page 20, lines 1 to 2.
sending an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter.	Page 20, lines 2 to 8.

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Claims 1 to 191 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,790,198 to White et al. (“*White*”).

VII. ARGUMENT

A. A *prima facie* case has not been made under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) that Claims 1 to 191 are unpatentable over *White*.

One of the benefits of the claimed system is that bypassing computers at the patient location (e.g., having operating parameters sent directly from a central computer), along with other comparison steps discussed in detail below, helps eliminate human error. (See page 10, lines 21 to 27 of the application). *White* does not teach these advantageous steps as discussed next.

White is generally directed to a wireless communication system between an IV medication infusion pump and a hospital information management system (“HIMS”). A transmitter is connected to the pump, which transmits a signal representing pre-selected pump operation characteristics to the HIMS. The HIMS includes a receiver configured to receive the signal and a processor capable of storing and displaying the pump operation characteristics. The pump is also configured to receive pump operation characteristics.

In the embodiment of *White* cited in the Office Action, a doctor inputs an order for patient medication to be administrated by the pump into the doctor’s order transmitter, which is capable of manually receiving an input (e.g., via a keyboard). Column 6, line 6 to column 7, line 18 of *White*, explains:

In one such embodiment *the doctor’s order signal 87 is received at receiver 61 by the HIMS 60 for storage and/or for comparison to the actual operation characteristics* as represented by the signal 49 transmitted from the IV pump 10. The storage and comparison may be carried out using an appropriate CPU 57. The pump 10 may also be provided with wireless signal receiver 51 to receive the doctor’s order wireless signal 87 directly. Alternatively, the HIMS may also be provided with a transmitter 65 to provide to the IV pump 10, a HIMS wireless signal 67 that may include a retransmission of the doctor’s order wireless signal 87, selected portions of the instructional content of the doctor’s order 82, or other data or instructions such as instructions input at keyboard 59 or stored at CPU 57. The receiver at the IV pump 10 is capable of receiving such data or instructions

for entry into the IV pump controls 43. *At the pump* data or instructions entry and pump activation will be according to appropriate safeguard, such as verification by the nurse or other health care professional responsible for the particular hospital patient. [Emphasis added].

In all embodiments disclosed in *White*, a nurse manually verifies any instruction sent to or entered into the pump. For example, referring to the flowchart in Fig. 5 of *White*, at box 79, the nurse validates that the instructions received by the pump are correct and begins the infusion.

In *White*, a nurse has to manually review each instruction and validates it prior to beginning the treatment. For example, *White* states:

- Such infusion data and pumping characteristics will nevertheless need to be validated by the nurse, in order to maintain the integrity of the system (column 8, lines 59 to 61).
- The nurse may use a hand-held communication unit 98 to manually enter information from a label on an IV container. The nurse may transmit the instructional data to the IV pump and upon confirming the patient, medication and pumping data match, the nurse may initiate IV pumping (column 9, lines 35 to 40).
- Again, upon confirming the information loaded into the IV pump, the nurse may activate pumping operations (column 9, lines 57 and 58).
- If all of the required infusion information is validated by the nurse, then the infusion may be initiated according to the accurately scanned infusion information . . . (column 12, lines 24 to 27).

Claim 1, on the other hand, includes the steps of determining if a second patient identifier (e.g., from a patient wristband) is equivalent to a third patient identifier (e.g., from a medication label) and sending a medication identifier to a first computer (e.g., a central hospital computer) *if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier*, and determining if the third patient identifier is equivalent to a first patient identifier (e.g., a patient identifier manually entered into the central hospital computer) and sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device *if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*, where the operating parameter does not pass through the second computer. The Office Action does not identify three distinct patient identifiers in *White*, let alone the claimed three-way cross check, as discussed below.

The Office Action references column 6, line 66 to column 7, line 2 of *White* as showing the step of determining if a second patient identifier is equivalent to a third patient identifier. This passage of *White* only discloses comparing *a doctor's order to operating parameters* of the pump. Nowhere does *White* disclose or suggest determining *if a second patient identifier is equivalent to a third patient identifier*.

The Office Action references column 4, lines 42 to 52 of *White* as showing the step of determining if a third patient identifier is equivalent to a first patient identifier. This passage of *White* only discloses that the pumps have a unique identification, and that information regarding the patient treated by a pump may be identified. Page 5 of the Office Action also references column 9, lines 47 to 53 of *White* regarding this step, which discloses a nurse entering a patient and IV medication identification into a hand-held unit. Nowhere does *White* disclose or suggest determining *if a third patient identifier is equivalent to a first patient identifier*.

The Advisory Action also refers to column 15, lines 3 to 34 of *White* as disclosing the above comparisons. But the passage merely discloses that a nurse is prompted to scan infusion information from a container only if a patient ID has been scanned from a patient's wristband. Nowhere does this passage disclose determining if a second patient identifier is equivalent to a third patient identifier and determining if a third patient identifier is equivalent to a first patient identifier. In fact, this passage makes no mention of any comparisons.

The combination of the structure and corresponding functional comparisons between the structure in Claim 1 and the operating parameter not being sent through the second computer (i.e., a hand-held unit) help eliminate human error in the administration of a treatment to a patient. *White* does not disclose the automated nature and detailed checks of the claimed system and method, which requires a nurse to verify all treatments and treatment parameters. For at least the above reasons, the rejection of Claims 1 to 20 as anticipated by *White* should be reversed.

Claims 21 to 191 provide substantially similar elements to those discussed above with respect to Claim 1 and the rejection of those claims should be reversed for the same and additional reasons discussed below.

Claim 21 is directed to a system for operating a medical device including , the system comprising a first computer, the first computer designed to accept *a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device*; a second computer, the second computer

designed to accept *a second patient identifier* from a first source, the second computer designed to accept a medication identifier from a second source, *the medication identifier including a third patient identifier*, where the second computer is designed to send the medication identifier to the first computer *if the second patient identifier and the third patient identifier are equivalent*; where the first computer is designed to send the operating parameter to the medical device *if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*, where the operating parameter does not pass through the second computer. For the reasons discussed above, *White* clearly does not disclose the emphasized features.

Claim 36 is directed to a program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for: accepting a first input from a first computer, the first input including *a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device*; accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion coming from a first source, the first portion including *a second patient identifier*, the second portion coming from a second source, the second portion including a medication identifier, *the medication identifier including a third patient identifier*; sending the medication identifier to the first computer, *if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier*; and sending the operating parameter to the medical device, *if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*, where the operating parameter does not pass through the second computer. For the reasons discussed above, *White* clearly does not disclose the emphasized features.

Claim 41 is directed to a system for operating a medical device, the system comprising means for accepting a first input at a central location, the first input including *a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device*; means for accepting a second input at a remote location, the second input including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion coming from a first source, the first portion including *a second patient identifier*, the second portion coming from a second source, the second portion including a medication identifier, *the medication identifier including a third patient identifier*; means for sending the medication identifier to the central location, *if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier*; and means for sending the operating parameter to the medical device, *if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*, where the operating

parameter does not pass through a computer prior to being accepted by the medical device. For the reasons discussed above, *White* clearly does not disclose the emphasized features.

Claim 45 is directed to a method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of accepting a first input at a first computer, the first input including *a first patient identifier* and an operating parameter for the medical device; accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input associated with information derived from a device attached to a patient, *the second input including a second patient identifier*; accepting a third input from the second computer, the third input associated with information affixed to a medication container, the third input including a medication identifier, *the medication identifier including a third patient identifier*; and sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device *if the first, second, and third patient identifiers are equivalent*, where the operating parameter is sent without passing through the second computer. For the reasons discussed above, *White* clearly does not disclose the emphasized features.

Claim 62 is directed to a program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for accepting a first input at a first computer, the first input including *a first patient identifier* and an operating parameter for the medical device; accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input associated with information derived from a device attached to a patient, the second input including *a second patient identifier*; accepting a third input from the second computer, the third input associated with a information affixed to a medication container, the third input including a medication identifier, *the medication identifier including a third patient identifier*; and sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device *if the first, second, and third patient identifiers are equivalent*, without passing through the second computer. For the reasons discussed above, *White* clearly does not disclose the emphasized features.

Claims 67 to 114 additionally provide that *a latest operating parameter* is compared to a first operating parameter. The latest operating parameter is provided to the medical device under certain conditions. *White* does not disclose or suggest such features.

Specifically Claim 67 is directed to a method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of inputting, at a central location, *a first patient identifier* and a first operating parameter for the medical device; inputting from a first source, at a remote location, *a second patient identifier*; inputting from a second source, at the remote location, a medication

identifier, *the medication identifier including a third patient identifier*; sending the medication identifier to the central location, *if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*; *finding a latest operating parameter at the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*; *and sending a confirmation to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter*; *and sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter*.

Claim 87 is directed to a system for operating a medical device, the system comprising a first processor at a central location, the first processor designed to accept *a first patient identifier* and a first operating parameter for the medical device; and a second processor at a remote location, the second processor designed to accept *a second patient identifier* from a first source; the second processor designed to accept a medication identifier from a second source, *the medication identifier including a third patient identifier*, where the second processor is designed to *send the medication identifier to the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*, where the first processor is designed to *find the latest operating parameter at the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*, where the first processor is designed to *send a confirmation to the second processor, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter*, and where the first processor is designed to *send the latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter*.

Claim 95 is directed to a program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for accepting *a first patient identifier* and a first operating parameter for the medical device from an input device at a central location; accepting *a second patient identifier* from a first source, the first source at a remote location; accepting a medication identifier from a second source, the second source at the remote location, the medication identifier including *a third patient identifier*; *sending the medication identifier to the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*; *finding a latest operating parameter, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier*; *sending a confirmation to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter*; *and sending the*

latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter.

Claim 101 is directed to a method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of storing medical treatment data in a memory associated with a fast processor, the medical treatment data including *a first patient identification data*, a first medication identification data, and a first plurality of medical device operating parameters, where the first plurality of medical device operating parameters is associated with the medical treatment data and the patient identification data; inputting second medication identification data into a second processor, where the second medication identification data is associated with medication to be administered to a patient, where the medical device is operably connected to the second processor; inputting *second patient identification data* into the second processor; sending the second medication identification data and the second patient identification data from the second processor to the first processor; *finding a latest plurality of medical device operating parameters in the memory associated with the first processor; and sending the latest plurality of medical device operating parameters to the second processor if a comparison of the first and second patient identifiers satisfies a first predetermined condition, and if a comparison of the first and second medication identification data satisfies a second predetermined condition; sending a confirmation to the second processor if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters; sending the latest plurality of operating parameters to the medical device if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters.*

Claim 108 is directed to a program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for: storing medical treatment data in a memory associated with a first processor, the medical treatment data including *a first patient identification data*, a first medication identification data, and a first plurality of medical device operating parameters, where the first plurality of medical device operating parameters is associated with the medical treatment data and the patient identification data; accepting a second medication identification data into a second processor, where the second medication identification data is associated with medication to be administered to a patient, where the medical device is operably connected to the second processor; accepting *a second patient identification data* into the second processor; sending the second medication identification data

and the second patient identification data from the second processor to the first processor; *finding a latest plurality of medical device operating parameters in the memory associated with the first processor; sending the latest plurality of medical device operating parameters to the second processor if a comparison of the first and second patient identifiers satisfies a first predetermined condition, and if a comparison of the first and second medication identification data satisfies a second predetermined condition; sending a confirmation to the second processor if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters; and sending the latest plurality of operating parameters to the medical device if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters.*

The Office Action made no attempt to specifically identify any such disclosures in *White*. For this additional reason, the rejection of Claims 67 to 114 as anticipated by *White* should be reversed.

Claim 115 is directed to a method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of: inputting, at a central location, *a first patient identifier* and *a first operating parameter* for the medical device; inputting *a second patient identifier* into a processor from a first source, the processor being at a remote location; inputting a medication identifier and *a second operating parameter* for the medical device into the processor, the medication identifier and a second operating parameter coming from a second source, the medication identifier including *a third patient identifier*; sending the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the central location, *if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier*; sending the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the processor, *if the first and second operating parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent*.

Claim 133 is directed a system for operating a medical device, the system comprising: a computer at a central location, the computer designed to accept *a first patient identifier* and *a first operating parameter* for the medical device; a processor at a remote location, the processor designed to accept *a second patient identifier* from a first source; the processor designed to accept a medication identifier and *a second operating parameter* for the medical device from a second source, the medication identifier including *a third patient identifier*; where the processor sends the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the computer, *if the*

second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier, and where the computer sends the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the processor, ***if the first and second operating parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent***.

Claim 141 is directed to a program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for: accepting, at a central location, ***a first patient identifier*** and ***a first operating parameter*** for the medical device; accepting ***a second patient identifier*** into a processor from a first source at a remote location; accepting a medication identifier and ***a second operating parameter*** for the medical device at the remote location, the medication identifier and a second operating parameter coming from a second source, the medication identifier including ***a third patient identifier***; sending the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the central location, ***if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier***; sending the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the processor, ***if the first and second operating parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent***.

White clearly does not disclose the cross check of patient identifiers of Claims 115, 133 and 141, for the reasons discussed above, nor does *White* disclose the emphasized comparison of ***first and second operating parameters***. The Office Action made no attempt to specifically identify such a comparison of operating parameters. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 115 to 145 should be reversed.

Claim 146 includes the steps of reading a medication identifier at a remote location, the medication identifier including a second patient identifier and ***a first medical device identifier***; reading ***a second medical device identifier*** at the remote location, the second medical device identifier being affixed to the medical device; and receiving an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location, ***if a first patient identifier is equivalent to a second patient identifier, and if the medical device identifier and the second medical device identifier are equivalent***. [Emphasis added].

Claim 160 includes similar features. Specifically, Claim 160 is directed to a program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for: reading ***a first patient identifier*** at a remote location, the first patient identifier being attached to a patient's body; reading a medication identifier at the remote

location, the medication identifier including *a second patient identifier* and *a first medical device identifier*; reading *a second medical device* identifier at the remote location, the second medical device identifier being affixed to the medical device; and trigger the transmission of an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location to a medical device, *if the first patient identifier is equivalent to the second patient identifier*, and *if the medical device identifier and the second medical device identifier are equivalent*. *White* does not disclose or suggest such features. Again, the Office Action makes no attempt to specifically identify any such disclosure in *White*. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 146 to 160 as anticipated by *White* should be reversed.

Claim 155 provides a digital assistant designed to trigger the transmission of an operating parameter for a medical device from a central location to the medical device, *if a first patient identifier is equivalent to a second patient identifier*. [Emphasis added]. *White* does not disclose such a digital assistant. For this additional reason, the rejection of Claim 155 and dependent Claims 156 to 159 as anticipated by *White* should be reversed.

Claim 165 includes storing a first operating parameter at a central location, the first operating parameter associated with a first patient identifier; accepting a second operating parameter into a medical device, the medical device being at a remote location; accepting the first patient identifier into the medical device; sending the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location; and *sending an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter*. [Emphasis added]. Claims 175 and 182 include similar claim language.

Specifically, Claim 175 is directed to a system for operating a medical device, the system comprising: a computer at a central location, the computer designed to store *a first operating parameter*, the first operating parameter associated with *a first patient identifier*; a medical device having a processor and an input device, the input device designed to read *a second operating parameter* from a medication label, the input device designed to read the first patient identifier from a wristband using the input device, the medical device at a remote location, the processor designed to send the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location, where *the computer is designed to send an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter*.

Claim 182 is directed to a program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for: storing *a first operating parameter* at a central location, the first operating parameter associated with *a first patient identifier*; accepting *a second operating parameter* into a medical device, the medical device at a remote location; accepting the rust patient identifier into the medical device; sending the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location; *sending an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter*. *White* does not disclose the foregoing emphasized features. Further, the Office Action was unable to specifically identify such features in *White*. For this additional reason, the rejection of Claims 155, 175 and 182 and the claims depending therefrom as anticipated by *White* should be reversed.

B. Conclusion.

Appellants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to establish that Claims 1 to 191 are unpatentable over *White*. Accordingly, Appellants respectfully submit that the obviousness rejections are erroneous in law and in fact and should therefore be reversed by this Board. The Director is authorized to charge any other fees that may be required, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

K & L GATES LLP

BY: Matthew S. Dicke
Matthew S. Dicke
Reg. No. 58,819
Customer No. 29159

Dated: April 6, 2009

VIII. Claims Appendix

PENDING CLAIMS OF U.S. PAT. APPL. SERIAL NO. 10/059,929

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:

inputting into a first computer a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;

inputting into a second computer, from a first source, a second patient identifier;

inputting into the second computer, from a second source, a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;

determining if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier and sending the medication identifier to the first computer, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier; and

determining if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier and sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier, where the operating parameter does not pass through the second computer.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

inputting into the first computer a second medication identifier, where the step of sending the operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, where the step of inputting into the first computer includes converting a signal generated by an input device to a computer readable medium format.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, where the first computer is at a central location.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, where the first computer is a pharmacy computer.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, a hospital patient ID number, a hospital bed location, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of: a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1, where the step of inputting into a second computer from a first source includes converting a signal generated by an input device to a computer readable medium format.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1, where the first source is a wristband.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1, where the first source is one of a group of first sources, where the group of first sources consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a drug label, laser readable data, a camera-type bar code reader, an RFID reader, a magnetic stripe reader, and radio-frequency readable data.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 1, where the second computer is at a remote location.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1, where the second computer is a personal digital assistant.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 1, where the second source is a medication label.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 1, where the second source is one of a group of second sources, where the group of second sources consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a medication label, laser readable data, and radio-frequency readable data.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 1, where the medication identifier includes one of a group of medical identifiers, where the group of medical identifiers consists of: a drug name, a dosage, a manufacturer, a batch, an expiration date, a National Drug Code (NDC) number, a proprietary database drug identifier, a company product code number, and a drug prescriber.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of: sending the operating parameter to the second computer if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of: using the operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 1, where the step of sending the medication identifier to the first computer includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 1, where the step of sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 21 (original): A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:
a first computer, the first computer designed to accept a first patient identifier and an
operating parameter for the medical device;

a second computer, the second computer designed to accept a second patient identifier
from a first source, the second computer designed to accept a medication identifier from a
second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier,

where the second computer is designed to send the medication identifier to the first
computer if the second patient identifier and the third patient identifier are equivalent;

where the first computer is designed to send the operating parameter to the medical
device if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier, where the operating
parameter does not pass through the second computer.

Claim 22 (original): The system of claim 21, where the first computer is designed to
accept a second medication identifier, where the first computer is designed to send the operating
parameter to the medical device only if the first medication identifier is equivalent to the second
medication identifier.

Claim 23 (original): The system of claim 21, where the medical device is an infusion
pump.

Claim 24 (original): The system of claim 21, where the first computer is at a central
location.

Claim 25 (original): The system of claim 21, where the first computer is a pharmacy
computer.

Claim 26 (original): The system of claim 21, where the first patient identifier is one of a
group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social
security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, and a name of a
patient's relative.

Claim 27 (original): The system of claim 21, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 28 (original): The system of claim 21, where the first source is a wristband.

Claim 29 (original): The system of claim 21, where the first source is one of the group of first sources, where the group of first sources consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a drug label, laser readable data, and radio-frequency readable data.

Claim 30 (original): The system of claim 21, where the second computer is at a remote location.

Claim 31 (original): The system of claim 21, where the second computer is a personal digital assistant.

Claim 32 (original): The system of claim 21, where the second source is a medication label.

Claim 33 (original): The system of claim 21, where the second source is one of a group of second sources, where the group of second sources consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a drug label, laser readable data, and radio-frequency readable data a bar code.

Claim 34 (original): The system of claim 21, where the medication identifier is one of a group of medication identifiers, where the group of medical identifiers consists of: a drug name, a dosage, a manufacturer, a batch, an expiration date, a National Drug Code (NDC) number, a proprietary database drug identifier, a company product code number, and a drug prescriber.

Claim 35 (original): The system of claim 21, where the first computer is designed to send the operating parameter to the medical device if the second patient identifier and the third patient identifier are equivalent to the first patient identifier.

Claim 36 (original): A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:

accepting a first input from a first computer, the first input including a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;

accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion coming from a first source, the first portion including a second patient identifier, the second portion coming from a second source, the second portion including a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;

sending the medication identifier to the first computer, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier; and

sending the operating parameter to the medical device, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier, where the operating parameter does not pass through the second computer.

Claim 37 (original): The program of claim 36, further comprising logic for:

inputting into the first computer a second medication identifier, where the logic for sending the operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 38 (original): The program of claim 36, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 39 (original): The program of claim 36, further comprising logic for: sending the operating parameter to the second computer if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 40 (original): The program of claim 36, further comprising logic for: using the operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 41 (original): A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising: means for accepting a first input at a central location, the first input including a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;

means for accepting a second input at a remote location, the second input including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion coming from a first source, the first portion including a second patient identifier, the second portion coming from a second source, the second portion including a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;

means for sending the medication identifier to the central location, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier; and

means for sending the operating parameter to the medical device, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier, where the operating parameter does not pass through a computer prior to being accepted by the medical device.

Claim 42 (original): The system of claim 41, further comprising: means for accepting a second medication identifier at the central location, where the step of sending the operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 43 (original): The system of claim 41, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 44 (original): The system of claim 41, where the means for sending the operating parameter to the medical device, is a means for sending the operating parameter to the medical device if the second patient identifier and the third patient identifier are equivalent to the first patient identifier.

Claim 45 (original): A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of: accepting a first input at a first computer, the first input including a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;

accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input associated with information derived from a device attached to a patient, the second input including a second patient identifier;

accepting a third input from the second computer, the third input associated with information affixed to a medication container, the third input including a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier; and

sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device if the first, second, and third patient identifiers are equivalent, where the operating parameter is sent without passing through the second computer.

Claim 46 (original): The method of claim 45, where the first input includes a second medication identifier, where the step of sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 47 (original): The method of claim 45, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 48 (original): The method of claim 45, where the step of accepting a first input at the first computer includes converting a signal generated by an input device to a computer readable medium format.

Claim 49 (original): The method of claim 45, where the first computer is at a central location.

Claim 50 (original): The method of claim 45, where the first computer is a pharmacy computer.

Claim 51 (original): The method of claim 45, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, a hospital patient ID number, a hospital bed location, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 52 (original): The method of claim 45, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of: a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 53 (original): The method of claim 45, where the step of accepting a second input from a second computer includes converting a signal generated by an input device to a computer readable medium format.

Claim 54 (original): The method of claim 45, where the device attached to a patient is a wristband.

Claim 55 (original): The method of claim 45, where the device includes the information in one of a group of formats, where the group of formats consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a drug label, laser readable data, a camera-type bar code reader, an RFID reader, a magnetic stripe reader, and radio-frequency readable data.

Claim 56 (original): The method of claim 45, where the second computer is at a remote location.

Claim 57 (original): The method of claim 45, where the second computer is a personal digital assistant.

Claim 58 (original): The method of claim 45, where the medication identifier is included in a medication label.

Claim 59 (original): The method of claim 45, where the medication identifier includes one of a group of medical identifiers, where the group of medical identifiers consists of: a drug name, a dosage, a manufacturer, a batch, an expiration date, a National Drug Code (NDC) number, a proprietary database drug identifier, a company product code number, and a drug prescriber.

Claim 60 (original): The method of claim 45, further comprising the step of: using the operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 61 (original): The method of claim 45, where the step of sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 62 (original): A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:

accepting a first input at a first computer, the first input including a first patient identifier and an operating parameter for the medical device;

accepting a second input from a second computer, the second input associated with information derived from a device attached to a patient, the second input including a second patient identifier;

accepting a third input from the second computer, the third input associated with a information affixed to a medication container, the third input including a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier; and

sending the operating parameter from the first computer to the medical device if the first, second, and third patient identifiers are equivalent, without passing through the second computer.

Claim 63 (original): The program of claim 62, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 64 (original): The program of claim 62, where the device attached to a patient is a wristband.

Claim 65 (original): The program of claim 62, where the medication identifier is included in a medication label.

Claim 66 (original): The program of claim 62, further comprising logic for: using the operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 67 (original): A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of: inputting, at a central location, a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device;

inputting from a first source, at a remote location, a second patient identifier;

inputting from a second source, at the remote location, a medication identifier, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;

sending the medication identifier to the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier;

finding a latest operating parameter at the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier; and

sending a confirmation to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter; and

sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter.

Claim 68 (original): The method of claim 67, further comprising the step of:
inputting, at the central location, a second medication identifier, where the step of sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 69 (original): The method of claim 67, wherein the latest operating parameter is sent directly to the medical device.

Claim 70 (original): The method of claim 67, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 71 (original): The method of claim 67, where the step of inputting from a first source includes converting a signal generated by an input device to a computer readable medium format.

Claim 72 (original): The method of claim 67, where the central location is a pharmacy.

Claim 73 (original): The method of claim 67, where the inputting at a central location is inputting into a computer at the central location.

Claim 74 (original): The method of claim 67, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, a hospital patient ID number, a hospital bed location, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 75 (original): The method of claim 67, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of: a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 76 (original): The method of claim 67, where the first source is a wristband.

Claim 77 (original): The method of claim 67, where the first source is one of the group of first sources, where the group of first sources consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a drug label, laser readable data, a camera-type bar code reader, an RFID reader, a magnetic stripe reader, and radio-frequency readable data.

Claim 78 (original): The method of claim 67, where the step of inputting at a remote location is a step of inputting to a computer at a remote location.

Claim 79 (original): The method of claim 67, where the where the step of inputting at a remote location is a step of inputting into a digital assistant.

Claim 80 (original): The method of claim 67, where the second source is a medication label.

Claim 81 (original): The method of claim 67, where the second source is one of a group of second sources, where the group of second sources consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a medication label, laser readable data, and radio-frequency readable data.

Claim 82 (original): The method of claim 67, where the medication identifier includes one of a group of medical identifiers, where the group of medical identifiers consists of: a drug name, a dosage, a manufacturer, a batch, an expiration date, a National Drug Code (NDC) number, a proprietary database drug identifier, a company product code number, and a drug prescriber.

Claim 83 (original): The method of claim 67, further comprising the step of: sending the latest operating parameter to the digital assistant if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 84 (original): The method of claim 67, further comprising the step of: using the latest operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 85 (original): The method of claim 67, where the step of sending the medication identifier to the central location includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 86 (original): The method of claim 67, where the step of sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 87 (original): A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:
a first processor at a central location, the first processor designed to accept a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device; and

 a second processor at a remote location, the second processor designed to accept a second patient identifier from a first source; the second processor designed to accept a medication identifier from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier,

 where the second processor is designed to send the medication identifier to the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier,

 where the first processor is designed to find the latest operating parameter at the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier,

 where the first processor is designed to send a confirmation to the second processor, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter, and

 where the first processor is designed to send the latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter.

Claim 88 (original): The system of claim 87, where the first computer is designed to accept a second medication identifier, where the first computer is designed to send the latest operating parameter to the medical device only if the first medication identifier is equivalent to the second medication identifier.

Claim 89 (original): The system of claim 87, where the first processor is designed to send the latest operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the second processor, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter.

Claim 90 (original): The system of claim 87, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 91 (original): The system of claim 87, where the first source is a wristband.

Claim 92 (original): The system of claim 87, where the second processor is a personal digital assistant.

Claim 93 (original): The system of claim 87, where the second source is a medication label.

Claim 94 (original): The system of claim 87, where the first processor is designed to send the operating parameter to the medical device if the second patient identifier and the third patient identifier are equivalent to the first patient identifier.

Claim 95 (original): A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:

accepting a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device from an input device at a central location;

accepting a second patient identifier from a first source, the first source at a remote location; accepting a medication identifier from a second source, the second source at the remote location, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;

sending the medication identifier to the central location, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier;

finding a latest operating parameter, if the third patient identifier is equivalent to the first patient identifier;

sending a confirmation to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter; and

sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device, if the first operating parameter is equivalent to the latest operating parameter.

Claim 96 (original): The program of claim 95, further comprising logic for: accepting a second medication identifier at the central location, where the logic for sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 97 (original): The program of claim 95, where the logic for sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device is logic for sending the latest operating parameter directly to the medical device.

Claim 98 (original): The program of claim 95, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 99 (original): The program of claim 95, further comprising logic for: sending the latest operating parameter to the second computer if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 100 (original): The program of claim 95, further comprising logic for: using the latest operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 101 (original): A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:

storing medical treatment data in a memory associated with a fast processor, the medical treatment data including a first patient identification data, a first medication identification data, and a first plurality of medical device operating parameters, where the first plurality of medical device operating parameters is associated with the medical treatment data and the patient identification data;

inputting second medication identification data into a second processor, where the second medication identification data is associated with medication to be administered to a patient, where the medical device is operably connected to the second processor;

inputting second patient identification data into the second processor;

sending the second medication identification data and the second patient identification data from the second processor to the first processor;

finding a latest plurality of medical device operating parameters in the memory associated with the first processor; and

sending the latest plurality of medical device operating parameters to the second processor if a comparison of the first and second patient identifiers satisfies a first predetermined condition, and if a comparison of the first and second medication identification data satisfies a second predetermined condition;

sending a confirmation to the second processor if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters;

sending the latest plurality of operating parameters to the medical device if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters.

Claim 102 (original): The method of claim 101, further comprising the step of:

inputting into the first processor a second medication identifier, where the step of sending the latest plurality of operating parameters to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 103 (original): The method of claim 101, where the first source is a wristband.

Claim 104 (original): The method of claim 101, where the second computer is at a remote location.

Claim 105 (original): The method of claim 101, where the second processor is the processor of a digital assistant.

Claim 106 (original): The method of claim 101, where the second source is a medication label.

Claim 107 (original): The method of claim 101, further comprising the step of: using the operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 108 (original): A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:

storing medical treatment data in a memory associated with a first processor, the medical treatment data including a first patient identification data, a first medication identification data, and a first plurality of medical device operating parameters, where the first plurality of medical device operating parameters is associated with the medical treatment data and the patient identification data;

accepting a second medication identification data into a second processor, where the second medication identification data is associated with medication to be administered to a patient, where the medical device is operably connected to the second processor;

accepting a second patient identification data into the second processor;

sending the second medication identification data and the second patient identification data from the second processor to the first processor;

finding a latest plurality of medical device operating parameters in the memory associated with the first processor;

sending the latest plurality of medical device operating parameters to the second processor if a comparison of the first and second patient identifiers satisfies a first predetermined condition, and if a comparison of the first and second medication identification data satisfies a second predetermined condition;

sending a confirmation to the second processor if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters; and

sending the latest plurality of operating parameters to the medical device if the first plurality of operating parameters is equivalent to the latest plurality of operating parameters.

Claim 109 (original): The program of claim 108, further comprising logic for: accepting into the first processor a second medication identifier, where the step of sending the latest plurality of operating parameters to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 110 (original): The program of claim 108, where the first source is a wristband.

Claim 111 (original): The method of claim 108, where the second computer is at a remote location.

Claim 112 (original): The program of claim 108, where the second processor is the processor of a digital assistant.

Claim 113 (original): The program of claim 108, where the second source is a medication label.

Claim 114 (original): The program of claim 108, further comprising logic for: programming the medical device using the latest plurality of operating parameters.

Claim 115 (original): A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of: inputting, at a central location, a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device;

inputting a second patient identifier into a processor from a first source, the processor being at a remote location;

inputting a medication identifier and a second operating parameter for the medical device into the processor, the medication identifier and a second operating parameter coming from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;

sending the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the central location, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier;

sending the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through

the processor, if the first and second operating parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 116 (original): The method of claim 115, further comprising the step of:

inputting a second medication identifier, at the central location, where the step of sending the operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 117 (original): The method of claim 115, where the processor is integral with the medical device.

Claim 118 (original): The method of claim 115, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 119 (original): The method of claim 115, where the step of inputting at the central location is a step of inputting into a pharmacy computer.

Claim 120 (original): The method of claim 115, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, a hospital patient ID number, a hospital bed location, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 121 (original): The method of claim 115, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of: a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 122 (original): The method of claim 115, where the step of inputting into a processor from a first source includes converting a signal generated by an input device to a computer readable medium format.

Claim 123 (original): The method of claim 115, where the first source is a wristband.

Claim 124 (original): The method of claim 115, where the first source is one of the group of first sources, where the group of first sources consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a drug label, laser readable data, a camera-type bar code reader, an RFID reader, a magnetic stripe reader, and radio-frequency readable data.

Claim 125 (original): The method of claim 115, where the processor is the processor of a digital assistant.

Claim 126 (original): The method of claim 115, where the second source is a medication label.

Claim 127 (original): The method of claim 115, where the second source is one of a group of second sources, where the group of second sources consists of: a bar code, a bar code reader, a wristband, a tag, a medication label, laser readable data, and radio-frequency readable data.

Claim 128 (original): The method of claim 115, where the medication identifier includes one of a group of medical identifiers, where the group of medical identifiers consists of: a drug name, a dosage, a manufacturer, a batch, an expiration date, a National Drug Code (NDC) number, a proprietary database drug identifier, a company product code number, and a drug prescriber.

Claim 129 (original): The method of claim 115, further comprising the step of: sending the second operating parameter to the processor if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 130 (original): The method of claim 115, further comprising the step of: using the operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 131 (original): The method of claim 115, where the step of sending the medication identifier to the central location includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 132 (original): The method of claim 115, where the step of sending the operating parameter from the to the medical device includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 133 (original): A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:
a computer at a central location, the computer designed to accept a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device;

a processor at a remote location, the processor designed to accept a second patient identifier from a first source; the processor designed to accept a medication identifier and a second operating parameter for the medical device from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;

where the processor sends the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the computer, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier, and

where the computer sends the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the processor, if the first and second operating parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 134 (original): The method of claim 133, where the processor is integral with the medical device.

Claim 135 (original): The system of claim 133, where the computer is designed to accept a second medication identifier, where the computer is designed to send the second operating parameter to the medical device only if the first medication identifier is equivalent to the second medication identifier.

Claim 136 (original): The system of claim 133, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 137 (original): The system of claim 133, where the first source is a wristband.

Claim 138 (original): The system of claim 133, where the processor is a personal digital assistant.

Claim 139 (original): The system of claim 133, where the second source is a medication label.

Claim 140 (original): The system of claim 133, where the computer is designed to send the operating parameter to the processor if the second patient identifier and the third patient identifier are equivalent to the first patient identifier.

Claim 141 (original): A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:

accepting, at a central location, a first patient identifier and a first operating parameter for the medical device;

accepting a second patient identifier into a processor from a first source at a remote location; accepting a medication identifier and a second operating parameter for the medical device at the remote location, the medication identifier and a second operating parameter coming from a second source, the medication identifier including a third patient identifier;

sending the medication identifier and the second operating parameter to the central location, if the second patient identifier is equivalent to the third patient identifier;

sending the second operating parameter to the medical device without passing through the processor, if the first and second operating parameters are equivalent and if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 142 (original): The program of claim 141, further comprising logic for:

accepting a second medication identifier at the central location, where the logic for sending the latest operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 143 (original): The program of claim 141, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 144 (original): The program of claim 141, further comprising logic for: sending the second operating parameter to the processor if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 145 (original): The program of claim 141, further comprising logic for: using the second operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 146 (original): A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of: reading a first patient identifier at a remote location, the first patient identifier being attached to a patient's body;

reading a medication identifier at the remote location, the medication identifier including a second patient identifier and a first medical device identifier;

reading a second medical device identifier at the remote location, the second medical device identifier being affixed to the medical device; and

receiving an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location, if the first patient identifier is equivalent to the second patient identifier, and if the medical device identifier and the second medical device identifier are equivalent.

Claim 147 (original): The method of claim 146, further comprising the step of: inputting at the central location a second medication identifier, where the step of sending the operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 148 (original): The method of claim 146, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 149 (original): The method of claim 146, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, a hospital patient ID number, a hospital bed location, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 150 (original): The method of claim 146, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of: a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 151 (original): The method of claim 146, where the steps of reading include the step of reading with a digital assistant.

Claim 152 (original): The method of claim 146, where the medication identifier includes one of a group of medical identifiers, where the group of medical identifiers consists of: a drug name, a dosage, a manufacturer, a batch, an expiration date, a National Drug Code (NDC) number, a proprietary database drug identifier, a company product code number, and a drug prescriber.

Claim 153 (original): The method of claim 146, further comprising the step of: using the operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 154 (original): The method of claim 146, where the step of receiving an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 155 (original): A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising: a digital assistant designed to read a first patient identifier, the first patient identifier being attached to a patient's body,

the digital assistant being designed to read a medication identifier at the remote location, the medication identifier including a second patient identifier and a first medical device identifier,

the digital assistant designed to read a second medical device identifier at the remote location, the second medical device identifier being affixed to the medical device, and

the digital assistant designed to trigger the transmission of an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location to a medical device, if the first patient identifier is equivalent to the second patient identifier, and if the medical device identifier and the second medical device identifier are equivalent.

Claim 156 (original): The system of claim 155, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 157 (original): The system of claim 155, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 158 (original): The system of claim 155, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 159 (original): The system of claim 155, where the medication identifier is a medication label.

Claim 160 (original): A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:

reading a first patient identifier at a remote location, the first patient identifier being attached to a patient's body;

reading a medication identifier at the remote location, the medication identifier including a second patient identifier and a first medical device identifier;

reading a second medical device identifier at the remote location, the second medical device identifier being affixed to the medical device; and

trigger the transmission of an operating parameter for the medical device from a central location to a medical device, if the first patient identifier is equivalent to the second patient identifier, and if the medical device identifier and the second medical device identifier are equivalent.

Claim 161 (original): The program of claim 160 further comprising logic for:

accepting a second medication identifier at the central location, where the logic for transmitting the operating parameter to the medical device is performed only if the first and second medication identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 162 (original): The program of claim 160, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 163 (original): The program of claim 160, further comprising logic for:

triggering the transmission of the operating parameter to the digital assistant if the first and second patient identifiers are equivalent.

Claim 164 (original): The program of claim 160, further comprising logic for:
using the operating parameter to program the medical device.

Claim 165 (original): A method for operating a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:

storing a first operating parameter at a central location, the first operating parameter associated with a first patient identifier;

accepting a second operating parameter into a medical device, the medical device being at a remote location;

accepting the first patient identifier into the medical device;

sending the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location; and

sending an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter.

Claim 166 (original): The method of claim 165, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 167 (original): The method of claim 165, where the first operating parameter is stored in a computer at a central location.

Claim 168 (original): The method of claim 165, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, a hospital patient ID number, a hospital bed location, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 169 (original): The method of claim 165, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of: a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 170 (original): The method of claim 165, where the step of accepting the first patient identifier into the medical device is a step of accepting the first patient identifier from a wristband into the medical device.

Claim 171 (original): The method of claim 165, where the step of sending an alarm is a step of sending an alarm to a digital assistant.

Claim 172 (original): The method of claim 165, where the second operating parameter is derived from a medication label.

Claim 173 (original): The method of claim 165, where the step of sending an alarm to the remote location includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 174 (original): The method of claim 165, where the step of sending the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location includes the use of a wireless communication path.

Claim 175 (original): A system for operating a medical device, the system comprising:
a computer at a central location, the computer designed to store a first operating parameter, the first operating parameter associated with a first patient identifier;
a medical device having a processor and an input device, the input device designed to read a second operating parameter from a medication label, the input device designed to read the first patient identifier from a wristband using the input device, the medical device at a remote location, the processor designed to send the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location,
where the computer is designed to send an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter.

Claim 176 (original): The system of claim 175, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 177 (original): The system of claim 175, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, a hospital patient ID number, a hospital bed location, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 178 (original): The system of claim 175, where the first operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of: a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 179 (original): The system of claim 175, where the system sends the alarm to a digital assistant.

Claim 180 (original): The system of claim 175, where the system sends the alarm using a wireless communication path.

Claim 181 (original): The system of claim 175, where the medical device sends the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location using a wireless communication path.

Claim 182 (original): A program for operating a medical device, the program stored on a computer readable medium, the program comprising logic for:

storing a first operating parameter at a central location, the first operating parameter associated with a first patient identifier;

accepting a second operating parameter into a medical device, the medical device at a remote location;

accepting the first patient identifier into the medical device;

sending the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location;

sending an alarm to the remote location, if the first operating parameter is not equivalent to the second operating parameter.

Claim 183 (original): The program of claim 182, where the medical device is an infusion pump.

Claim 184 (original): The program of claim 182, where the first operating parameter is stored in a computer at a central location.

Claim 185 (original): The program of claim 182, where the first patient identifier is one of a group of identifiers, where the group of identifiers consists of: a patient name, a patient social security number, a patient blood type, a patient address, a patient's allergy, a hospital patient ID number, a hospital bed location, and a name of a patient's relative.

Claim 186 (original): The program of claim 182, where the operating parameter is one of a group of operating parameters, where the group of operating parameters consists of: a medication flow per unit of time, a quantity of medication, a dosing unit, a dosing duration, a dosing volume, a drug name, a dose unit, and a monitoring limit.

Claim 187 (original): The program of claim 182, where the logic for accepting the first patient identifier into the medical device is logic for accepting the first patient identifier from a wristband into the medical device.

Claim 188 (original): The program of claim 182, where the logic for sending an alarm is logic for sending an alarm to a digital assistant.

Claim 189 (original): The program of claim 182, where the second operating parameter is derived from a medication label.

Claim 190 (original): The program of claim 182, where the logic for sending an alarm to the remote location includes the use of logic for using a wireless communication path.

Claim 191 (original): The program of claim 182, where the logic for sending the second operating parameter and the first patient identifier to the central location includes logic for using of a wireless communication path.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None.

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.